Community consultation

Council has been conducting community consultation on several issues and this has been done through 'Your Say' and other more active methods such as surveys. Many in the community feel that even though the consultation is conducted, the input from it is not considered since many decisions made more recently by the Council seem to be at odds with community wishes.

If elected, what would you do to ensure that the community consultation conducted by Council had more influence on decision making?

Beth Warren: I was elected in 2018 on a platform of better community consultation, and while things have improved, there is still more to do to ensure our decisions are in line with community expectations. We are here to represent you!

I've appreciated the opportunity to speak with many residents regarding their concerns and always strive to represent these in any decision.

Climate Change

Every year we are seeing increasingly devastating impacts of climate change across Australia and the world. Many councils have declared a "climate emergency", along with delivery of Climate Emergency Plans which include actions such as 100 percent renewable energy, zero net emissions, divesting finances and pledges to lobby state and federal politicians for stronger action.

What are your views on this and in your role as councillor what sort of actions would you support to mitigate or adapt to climate change?

Beth Warren: I moved a Climate Emergency motion in 2019 which was defeated.

I'm committed to significant and urgent action to address the impacts of climate change to ensure that Clarence remains liveable. This includes reducing our emissions, planting more trees, helping residents move to renewable energy, planning for more severe and frequent storms with fit-forpurpose stormwater systems, re-considering development in flood-prone areas and following best practice in addressing coastal erosion, waste management, and bushfire management.

Public Land

In the last 10 years we have seen proposals put forward or invited by Council for the building of private developments on public land (such as Arm End, Kangaroo Bay, Rosny Hill). These proposals have been controversial suggesting that they will have significant impacts on community.

If you were elected and you received evidence of significant community opposition to a proposed development on public land under Council's control, how would you act on it?

Beth Warren: Public land should remain public! I do not support selling or leasing our public land to developers in such a way that locks out the locals or degrades our sensitive environment.

I have consistently voted against such developments.

Urban Growth

In the last ten years, the Census shows that the population of Clarence has increased by almost 10,000 people, and there has been a corresponding increase in dwellings of 3,500. With new suburbs still being developed, further growth is underway.

What challenges and opportunities do you think this level of growth presents to Council?

Beth Warren: There are around 3000 undeveloped lots in Clarence. We need to ensure we make better use of land that is close to services and infrastructure rather than increasing urban sprawl.

I support well-planned medium density housing with a focus on affordable and social housing, close to services, with a focus on building communities rather than ghettos.

Ferry service

The new ferry service between Hobart and Bellerive is anticipated to continue. The current patronage of the service is already putting pressure on the parking around Bellerive, and this will only increase if the service grows.

Do you support the service and, if you do, what would you do to address the parking pressures especially if the service was to be expanded in the future?

Beth Warren: I love the ferry, and have been pushing for the State Government to work with Council to resolve the parking pressures which we predicted but which were not addressed when the government implemented this service. I support increased parking in Percy Street which would benefit local businesses and commuters. We have the space, and funds set aside to make this happen.

Your key issues

What new initiatives are you eager to champion if you are elected and why do you see these as important to the future of the Clarence community?

Beth Warren:

- Urgent and significant action on climate change. Reduce Council's carbon emissions and assist residents to install solar panels to address cost-of-living pressures.
- Increase the availability of affordable rental properties through sensible caps on AirBnB properties and more affordable housing close to services.
- Ensure Clarence is inclusive and accessible to all.
- Plan separated bike paths for commuters and leisure.
- Advocate for more frequent, affordable public transport rather than more roads through our bushland and quiet suburbs.